

Fair tonight. Clear, cold tomorrow.

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SENATE COMMITTEE ON ISTHMUS CANAL SADLY PERPLEXED

Does Not Know Which Side to Believe in Present Controversy.

MAY PAY VISIT TO ZONE

Prepared to Send Delegation to See for Itself Before Reaching Decision.

A subcommittee of the Senate Committee on Intercommerce Canals will probably visit the Isthmus of Panama during the latter part of this month or early in March.

Much dissatisfaction has been expressed by certain members of the committee with the progress made thus far in canal affairs. It has become apparent to the chairman of the committee that those called to testify are careful of the evidence they give. The stories told vary so much that room for doubt as to the accuracy of certain statements exists. Several of the committee really don't know which story or how much of each story to believe.

To set themselves right on this subject it has been suggested that a subcommittee be designated to personally inspect the condition of affairs on the Isthmus. The personnel of this committee has not as yet been decided upon. It is understood that it will be made up of an equal number of each party, probably four in all.

The committee is determined to get at the bottom and get the facts. To do this, Mr. Millard, chairman of the committee, claims the proper method of procedure is to take time by the forelock and have the committee make a personal investigation.

They began to think. Up to yesterday this scheme was held in embryo only. The assertions made by Robert P. Schwerin, vice president and general manager of the Pacific Mail Steamship Company, in his statement before the committee set those who heard him to thinking seriously. Mr. Schwerin said that whatever connection there was in the freight conditions at La Boca, was entirely due to the lack of administration on the part of the Isthmian Canal Commission in Panama.

He supplemented his statements by data, showing the delays his vessels were experiencing and in one instance he said that one vessel lost in a year over 100 days, or practically time in which to make two round trips. He said the schedule in route allowed from nine to eleven days' stay at the Isthmus, but that it was a rare thing for one of their ships to get away in from ten to twenty days. At San Francisco, he said, they always get a ship away in six days.

Failed in Agreement.

Messrs. Walker, Baird and Hunt, who were representing the Canal Commission and the Panama Railroad Company, a year ago agreed to co-operate with the steamship company in an effort to give better service in the freight line there. They failed to live up to their agreement. When Mr. Stevens went to the Isthmus his attention was called to the unsatisfactory conditions in getting freight away, but accomplished little in the co-operation line.

These assertions were seriously considered by the committee, who believe the only way to get the thing straight is to go to the zone and investigate for itself.

PANAMA AGAIN VISITED BY DASTROUS BLAZE

PANAMA, Feb. 1.—The second disastrous fire to visit this city within a month started here about 2:30 o'clock this morning, and before it was extinguished had caused a great deal of damage.

The fire raged in Main street and twenty-eight buildings, including the Concordia Hotel, which was occupied by many Americans, and fifteen stores were destroyed. The loss is estimated at \$500,000, and is only partially covered by insurance.

THE WEATHER REPORT.

A cold, high area from the extreme northwest controls the weather situation this morning, and high pressure now prevails generally except from the lower lake region eastward. There has been a decided temperature fall in the Northwest with a minimum of 26 degrees below zero at Winnipeg. It is also considerably colder in the Atlantic and Gulf States, while in the middle Mississippi and lower Missouri valleys it is much warmer.

The eastward movement of the north-west high area will cause a decided fall in temperature tonight and Friday from the Ohio valley and lower lake region eastward with a cold wave in New York, western Pennsylvania, West Virginia, and Ohio. It will also be colder Friday in the northern portion of the south Atlantic and continue cold Saturday from the Carolinas northward. The weather will be fair in the East and South and the lake region, and also tonight in eastern New York.

TEMPERATURE.
8 a. m. 38
12 m. 38
1 p. m. 38

THE SUN.
Sun sets today 5:21
Sun rises tomorrow 7:06

TIDE TABLE.
High tide today 1:24
Low tide today 8:03
High tide tomorrow 2:10 a. m.
Low tide tomorrow 8:47 a. m., 3:35 p. m.

ADMITS HE LIED



CHARLES F. JONES, Valet to W. M. Rice.

SWEAR JONES WAS LYING ABOUT RICE

Patrick's Attorneys Ask New Trial on Evidence.

TEXANS MAKE AFFIDAVITS

Present Neighbors in Houston, Texas, Declare Condemned Lawyer's Accuser Now Exonerates Him.

NEW YORK, Feb. 1.—Charles F. Jones, who served as valet and secretary to William Marsh Rice, the Texas millionaire, has since the conviction of Lawyer Albert T. Patrick for the murder of Rice, told a number of persons in Texas and elsewhere, according to their affidavits, that he lied when he swore at the Patrick trial that he killed his benefactor with chloroform.

He has also told these same persons that he lied when he swore that Patrick induced him to commit the murder for which Patrick is now under sentence of death.

Testified Under Duress. Jones has also declared, these men swear, that he was forced to make these statements on the witness stand and that they threatened him with death by electricity and the imprisonment unless he swore the way they told him to.

All this and other startling information is contained in a number of affidavits served upon Assistant District Attorney Francis Patrick Garvan at the district attorney's office by William M. K. Olcott, of counsel for Patrick. These affidavits are attached to the moving papers in an application for a new trial for Patrick. The motion is to be made in court on February 5.

The papers on Mr. Jerome's office show that affidavits have been obtained by Patrick's counsel from several persons who have been on friendly terms with Charles F. Jones since Jones was released and sent to his former home, in Houston, Tex.

John Muliken, of St. Louis, Patrick's brother-in-law, caused the affidavits to be taken before ex-Probate Judge A. R. Bailey, of Houston, Tex.

DISTRICT WHIPPING POST BILL PUT ON CALENDAR

The Adams bill, providing a whipping post for wife beaters in the District of Columbia, was put on the calendar today by the House Committee on the District of Columbia, and will be called up for discussion in the House on the next District day, two weeks from next Monday.

The committee reported it today to the House "without recommendation," and this was done only after Representative Sims of Tennessee demanded a vote and no vote on the proposition. The bill passed in ten members' votes in favor of such action and three against.

In taking this action the committee against the bill passage by the House if the House is in favor of it. The bill was introduced by Representative Smith of Michigan; Allen, Morrill, Campbell, Wiley, of New Jersey; Greene, Belgier, Blackburn, Kleim, and Babcock.

Those voting no were Representatives Sims, Meyer, and McLain.

It is understood that the committee, in taking what is virtually favorable action on the bill, was influenced by the fact that the President had favored the whipping post in one of his messages to the District Commissioners had recommended it, and that Major Sylvester is in favor of it.

The bill provides that any man who beats his wife, and who is convicted of the offense, shall be subjected to corporal punishment. The number of lashes not to exceed thirty.

It is further provided that the whipping shall be done by the Marshal of the District or one of his deputies in the presence of a physician.

The bill will be called up in the House by Representative Bertie Adams of Pennsylvania, who has long advocated the bill, and who is its author.

The daily average net paid circulation of The Washington Times exceeds that of any other Washington paper by thousands of copies.

Yesterday's net circulation was 39,737

SUES GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY FOR EXPELLING SON

Young Gannon Attended Sister's Marriage in New York.

WELL KNOWN IN CAPITAL

Dr. Buel Must Show Cause Why Lad Should Not Be Restored to Rights.

Because W. E. Gannon, a minor, and student at the Georgetown University, left Washington, January 5 last, to go to New York to act as godfather for his niece, and usher at his sister's wedding, the Rev. Dr. Buel, president of the institution, has become involved in a law suit in the local courts.

As a result of young Gannon's trip to New York, he was expelled from the college, an alibi father, Frank S. Gannon, who has charge of the Surface Street Railway Lines of Broadway, New York, today applied to the local courts for a writ of mandamus to compel the reinstatement of his son as a member of the freshman class of the college.

Mr. Gannon is well known here, where he was for a long time located as vice president of the Southern Railway Company.

Text of Complaint.

Mr. Gannon's petition, which is filed by Attorney Wilton J. Lambert, sets forth that the petitioner entered the freshman class of the Georgetown College in September, 1905, and paid a sum of money which entitled him to remain at the institution until June, 1906.

Young Gannon occupied his room and entered upon the discharge of his duties as a student in the class in September, and continued as a member of the class in good standing until January 5, 1906, when he received notice from his father that his presence was desired in New York for the purpose of acting as godfather for his niece, and usher at his sister's wedding.

His presence was also required in the same city on January 5, 1906, to participate and act as usher at the wedding of his only sister.

Gave Due Notice.

After due notice to the president of the college, young Gannon left on the night of the 5th after the conclusion of his studies and went to New York to his father's home, where he acted as godfather for his niece and officiated at the wedding ceremonies of his sister.

The petition further sets forth that on the 9th day of January he returned to the college, and that he was notified by the Rev. Dr. Buel, president of the college, notifying him that his son's name had been erased from the books of the college and that he would not be allowed to re-enter and that his expulsion was final.

It is contended that in deportment and in his studies the petitioner had maintained thoroughness, as was shown by his report sent to him in January, after his expulsion. It is also said there is no reason for the attempted removal of the petitioner from the college at different times other than the unreasonable action taken on the request of the parents of the petitioner for his attendance at the baptism and marriage ceremonies referred to.

"Without Reason," Says Gannon.

It is alleged that this arbitrary act was taken by the president, Father Buel, without prior reference to the directors of the college, and it was without reason or justice, and an invasion of the petitioner's rights, and of his parent's rights, and a breach of contract. It is also set forth that the father of petitioner had four of his sons, including petitioner, attend the college at different times as students, and that he has paid a great deal of money to the institution.

Upon presentation of the petition to Justice Barnard, the justice ordered the rule to issue on the 5th day of February, 1906, why the writ of mandamus should not issue, compelling them to restore petitioner to his rights as a member of the freshman class of Georgetown.

CRITICISM BY JAPAN ANGERS ENGLISHMEN

Pride Hurt by Expression of Intention at Tokyo to Ask British to Reform Army.

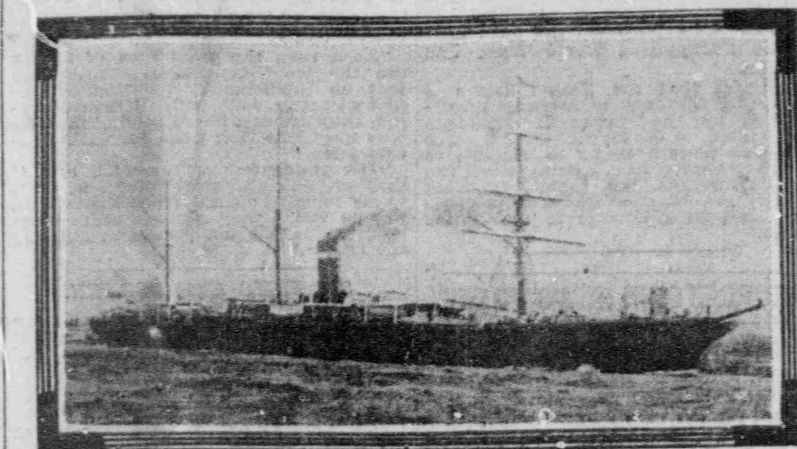
LONDON, Feb. 1.—The first note of discord in the harmonious relations which have existed between Japan and Great Britain since the alliance between these great powers was formed, has been struck by the reported incident in Tokyo yesterday, when Mr. Oishi, leader of the Japanese progressive party, at a meeting of the budget committee of the diet, interpreted General Terauchi, minister of war, as to whether Japan would insist that England reform her army.

The query and the reported answer of the war minister that the Japanese government would do this at a future time, have greatly aroused the people of England. Englishmen have hitherto regarded Japan paternally, and they are annoyed that Japan should criticize the English army, and resist the demand from their ally.

London newspapers have telegraphed queries to Tokyo demanding to know if Mr. Oishi was rightly quoted, and whether General Terauchi declared that he intended to urge such reforms.

Fireproof Storage. Merchants' Transfer & Storage Co., Adv.

FIRE DESTROYS TRANSPORT MEADE; SOLDIERS FACE TERRIBLE DEATH



Transport Meade.

Town Topics Watched By Postal Officials

Colonel Mann's Now Famous Publication Narrowly Escapes Stinging Blow at Hands of Government.

It has just come to light that Town Topics has been under surveillance by the Postoffice Department. A little over a year ago the publication was subjected to a rigid investigation, with a view of excluding it from the mails. This was shortly after it printed a scurrilous paragraph about the President's daughter. So adversely worded was the offensive item that the legal authorities of the department decided that no order could be issued against the publication.

Postoffice inspectors were assigned in November, 1904, to investigate Town Topics at the order of the then Postmaster General Wynne, after a formal complaint had been lodged against it. For a month every paragraph in the news columns as well as every advertisement was scanned, but the inspectors reported that nothing had been found that would justify the department in declaring the periodical to be improper for admission to the mails.

Officials Watch Publication.

Since then, officials of the department have been watching Town Topics in a general way for matter that could be

branded as "obscene" within the meaning of the postal laws and regulations. Apparently, however, a scare had been thrown into Colonel Mann and Judge Devel, for so far as the authorities are advised, the paper has kept within the letter of the law.

In order to refuse a periodical the privilege of the mails, the contents of a specific issue must be declared obscene or fraudulent. Blackmail is not considered by the Postoffice Department as ground for barring publications from the mails. Scurrilous or libelous statements must be on the wrapper to make the mailer objectionable to the department.

Affects But One Issue.

If a periodical is held to be obscene or fraudulent, action taken by the department affects only the issue containing the offensive matter. Future issues are acceptable, but if the offense be repeated, the local postmaster is instructed to hold the issue until the department may investigate and take action. Few publications find it advisable to continue offensive publications, although many offend once.

Of late there has been no formal complaint made to the department about Town Topics. Objection to any paragraph when made to the proper officials, would lead to another rigid investigation of the paper.

East Washington Wants More Money for Teachers

Special Committee of Citizens' Association, After Investigation of Conditions, Will Make This Recommendation.

A complete review of present school conditions in the District of Columbia will be presented to the East Washington Citizens' Association tonight by the special committee on schools appointed by President Smith, of that association, six weeks ago. Its findings are mainly these:

That the scheme of public instruction in the schools of the District—with no statement whatever as to the manner in which that scheme is administered by the present Board of Education—is well suited to local conditions.

That, while only 200 children attend the Eastern High School, more than 500 children of Capitol Hill go to other high schools.

That there is a marked disposition on the part of Capitol Hill parents to send children of Capitol Hill to other high schools.

Comparative tables, showing the salaries paid in other cities, will be exhibited.

The committee will hold itself ready to supply the association in the course of the debate over its report with further information as to present conditions in the schools.

In membership, the committee is as follows: William H. White, chairman; F. H. Parsons, William F. Hart, Dr. M. M. Moffitt, James Barry, E. F. Albert, and D. M. Hildreth.

NAMES HIS BROTHER AS THE CO-RESPONDENT

NEW YORK, Feb. 1.—There was placed upon the calendar for trial in the supreme court during the term beginning February 1, a suit for divorce against Anna Louise Corey.

Mr. Corey accuses his wife of misconduct "with the plaintiff's brother," the city of New York, at various times since January 1, 1888, and at various places, including West Fifty-second street.

Three Believed to Have Perished and Three Score Injured as Result of the Conflagration.

THIRD OFFICER WALLACE DEAD; CAPTAIN WILSON BADLY HURT

Troops Aboard Were From the Second Infantry and the Sixth Field Artillery. Bound for Manila.

SOLDIERS FACE DEATH ABOARD SHIP

Fire destroyed the army transport Meade in the harbor of San Francisco. On board was the Second Infantry and the Sixth field artillery.

The lives of over a thousand soldiers, besides the large crew the vessel carried, were imperiled. Latest reports say that three are dead, and over three score are injured.

Among the lives lost were several San Francisco firemen, who died while bravely attempting to rescue the imperiled.

Scores of injured are at hospitals awaiting treatment.

The fact that a large quantity of ammunition was stored on the vessel awaiting transportation to Manila caused consternation for a while.

Eighty thousand dollars in gold was rescued from the wreck and guarded soldiers.

A lighted cigar or cigarette thrown among the baggage is blamed for the fire.

Meade was formerly the American liner Berlin, and was the largest in the transport service. She was acquired by the Government at the outbreak of the Spanish war.

It was the Meade that conveyed soldiers to Cuba to inquire into conditions on the island.

Secretary Alger had planned to use the Meade on his proposed trip around Cuba and Porto Rico.

SAN FRANCISCO, Feb. 1.—The United States transport Meade, formerly the American liner Berlin, with between 1,000 and 1,500 soldiers on board, was destroyed by fire early this morning.

While the blaze spread with great rapidity, and while more than three score were severely injured, the death list so far recorded numbers but three. In this is included Third Officer Wallace, of the Meade. Among the badly injured is Capt. George Wilson of the transport, who had a marvelous escape from terrible death.

The troops aboard the Meade were 800 men of the Second Infantry, under Col. Francis W. Mansfield, and 92 men of the Sixth Field Artillery, under Capt. George W. Gotchell.

The Sixth Battery Field Artillery came from Fort Sam Houston, Tex., to San Francisco some time ago.

The Second Infantry has been stationed at the Presidio, San Francisco.

SCORES IN HOSPITALS.

Scores of others are awaiting treatment at the hospital, lying on stretchers, sitting against the wall, or pacing up and down awaiting with mute fortitude their turns to be treated, while surgeons from the hospitals and all the physicians who could be summoned worked to dress and alleviate their hurts.

The fire was discovered in the forward hold of the transport, which was lying at the foot of Folsom street with 1,000 troops on board ready to sail for Manila this morning.

The fire spread rapidly and the hold soon became a raging pit. Alarm after alarm was sounded, and brought all the available fire fighting apparatus in the city to the scene.

The fire was one of the most disastrous that has raged on the front in years. Eight hundred barrels of lime, it is said, were stored in the forward hold of the transport. Adjacent were the compartments where the officers stored their personal effects. The fumes rising from the burning lime rendered all unconscious who attempted to enter the hold to conquer the flames.

PAINTER GIVES THE ALARM.

It was 11:30 o'clock when a painter at work on the main deck discovered the fact that the ship was on fire. He rushed to Master-at-Arms Morris, who gave the alarm and aroused Sailing Master Wilson. Alarms were then hurriedly turned in from boxes in the vicinity.

Feared an Explosion. The terror of an expected explosion was present among the many other fears of the night, because of the fact that stored on the Meade was a great quantity of ammunition, consigned to Manila. The ammunition, however, was stored in compartment No. 6, next to the last on the boat, while the fire began in compartment No. 2, far forward.

The fire, however, was eating its way backward and at 2 o'clock had cut through No. 3 compartment and No. 4, and was eating its way toward the hold where the explosive matter was stored. The utmost energies of those in charge were directed toward flooding this compartment and cutting it off by a volume of water from the encroachment of the flames.

When it was seen that the flames were eating their way aft, Captain Wilson, who was lying injured and unconscious in a bed in the cabin, was lifted by willing hands and carried ashore and sent to the harbor hospital. He was suffering from bad burns in connection with his injured shoulder.

The forward part of the ship where the

Carried Away Unconscious. Captain Gilbert, of the fire department, was overcome three times by the smoke, returning time and again to the

The Times Is Making Greater Gains in Advertising Than Any Paper Published in the District.

Total Columns of Advertising in January, 1906, 1,546 cols, 168 lines
Total Columns of Advertising in January, 1905, 1,274 cols, 96 lines
Total Gain in Advertising During January, 1906, 272 cols, 72 lines